

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Risan**

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(54) **METHOD AND SYSTEM OF DETERRING UNAUTHORIZED USE OF MEDIA CONTENT BY DEGRADING THE CONTENTS WAVEFORM**

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USPC ..... **726/26-33**  
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

In one embodiment, the present invention pertains to a method and system for deterring unauthorized use of media content in a computing system and network. In one embodiment, the invention comprises detecting an unauthorized use of the media content in a computing system or network, the media content having a characteristic digital waveform format and an associated indicator for indicating to a compliance mechanism an unauthorized use of the media content. On detecting an unauthorized use of the media content, the media content characteristic digital waveform format is degraded. In this embodiment of the invention, unauthorized use is non-compliance with a use restriction applicable to the presentation of the media content in the computing system or network. In accordance with this embodiment of the invention, the media content is rendered incomprehensible to an unauthorized user experiencing the media content, thereby likely deterring further unauthorized use of the media.

**62 Claims, 26 Drawing Sheets**

